

Acknowledgement

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News & Views

Spanish Association for the Promotion of LCA Development (APRODACV)

Workshop Plan, Spring 1997

APRODACV, the Spanish Association for the Promotion of LCA Development, is organizing its first LCA meeting of experts. The workshop will be attended by approximately 40 experts from the public and private sector. Its aim is to exchange ideas, information and experiences, and collect alternative actions and proposals in the field of LCA. Another goal of this workshop is to enhance the contact between LCA experts and to share the knowledge on LCA in Spain. The application and implementation of LCA in Spain is still in an early state of development.

As a result of the workshop, a basic document will be written which would point at the main tasks and issues needed to carry out a Strategic Plan for the implementation of LCA as an environmental management tool in Spain before the year 2000.

The development of the workshop will be carried out according to the methodology developed by DGXIII (European Commission). This methodology aims at reaching an agreement in the main fields discussed in the workshop within a maximum period of two days.

The workshop will primarily be structured in four parts or sessions. Two of them are performed by working groups and the other two are plenary sessions:

In the first session, the experts will join different groups according to the following classification: Administration (public authori-

ties); Consultancies and Engineering; Industry and Services; Research and Education, and NGOs (non-government organizations). In each group the most interesting ideas to implement LCA should be discussed.

As for the second session, all participants will come together to elect five proposals (elaborated by the different working groups) which should be the best to implement LCA in new products and processes in Spain before the year 2000.

In the third session, all participants will be distributed again in different groups: Packaging; Standardization and Eco-labelling; Waste Management; Product Design; Environmental Management, and Research/Education and Information. Each group will present a list of actions in its field and the Organization will vote for the three best actions proposed in each working group.

Finally, in the fourth session all members will come again and will vote on the three best options for all working groups. As a result, a final document should be written. The final documents should incorporate the discussions and the conclusions reached in this experts' workshop. This document will be published and sent to all interested parties: Administration, Business associations, University, NGOs,.... and, as said above, it should be The Strategic Plan to implement LCA in Spain.

Development of an Environmental Database for the Application of LCA in Catalonia

The objective of this project is to develop a tool for the performance of LCA in our coun-

try (Catalonia). The aim is to collect basic data considering the special geographical and technological features of Catalonia in such a way that it can be used as a basic source of information for the application of LCA to products and processes. It is also expected that the Administration will make use of this data to establish environmental policies with objective criteria. The project consists of elaborating a database of resources and basic operations to use and perform LCAs. The work is structured into three points:

1. Identification and classification of the basic data of materials, energy sources, transport and pollutants, and collection of background and specific data
2. Collection of exological indexes and adaptation of the impact assessment methods
3. Development of a software package to handle the database

The work will be performed by four research groups of the following Universities:

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (including the collaboration of Randa Group S.A.)
- Universitat Rovira i Virgili
- Universitat de Girona

The project has been assigned an initial financial support by the Catalanian Government.

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